



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Thomas GRAFENAUER

Group Art Unit: 3635

Appln. No. : 10/550,607

Examiner: Unassigned

I.A. Filed : January 30, 2004

Confirmation No.: 4105

For : DEVICE FOR CONNECTING BUILDING BOARDS, ESPECIALLY FLOOR
PANELS

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Window, Mail Stop _____
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, and in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 *et seq.*, Applicants respectfully bring the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449 to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application. The documents were cited in an International Search Report for International Application PCT/DE2004/000148, of which the instant application is a national stage entry under 35 U.S.C. §371. For the Examiner's convenience, U.S. patent documents that were listed as family members in the Annex to the International Search Report are also cited.

English-language copies of the International Search Report and Written Opinion of PCT/DE2004/000148 are submitted herewith. Moreover, copies of the cited/listed non-U.S. patent documents are included herewith. Applicants submit that the comments of the international examiner satisfy the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(3)(i) with regard to the non-English-language documents. Pursuant to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. 1.98 (a)(2)(i), copies of the cited/listed U.S. patents and U.S. published patent applications are not enclosed herewith.

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Also submitted herewith, and listed on the attached form PTO-1449, is German Publication No. DE 100 34 409, which was published on January 1, 2002 and discussed at page 1 of the specification of the instant application.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the materials cited and indicate such consideration by appropriately initialing the enclosed PTO-1449 and including a copy of the initialed form in the next official communication.

This citation does not constitute an admission that the documents are relevant or material to the claims. They are only cited as constituting related art of which Applicants are aware.

Applicants note that while this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months from the filing date, Applicants have not received a first action on the merits from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Accordingly, consideration of the enclosed document is required under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3).

However, if the first action on the merits has been mailed prior to the filing date of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants hereby authorize the Commissioner to charge any fees necessary to ensure consideration of the documents cited herein to Deposit Account No. 19-0089, including the amount of \$180.00 as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for consideration of the documents under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c).

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas GRAFENAUER



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March 15, 2007
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*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /EAP/